

KIDSNET UPDATE

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KIDSNET facilitates the collection and appropriate sharing of health data with healthcare providers, parents, MCH programs, and other child service providers for the provision of timely and appropriate preventive health services and follow up.

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Lead Screening

From time to time, we receive calls from parents who do not know their children's blood lead levels after the test has been done. Recognizing this need from parents, we encourage you to inform them of their children's blood lead levels and keep a supply of the brochure "Understanding Your Child's Blood Lead Level" to give to parents.

To order this and other Family Health brochures, please call the Family Health Information Line at 1-800-942-7434 or visit our website at <http://www.health.state.ri.us/lead/family/orderform.php>. Should you have any questions about the lead screening schedule, requirements, or exemptions, please contact Patricia Raymond, RN, at 222-5921 or Patricia.Raymond@health.ri.gov

Please also remember that you can use KIDSNET to generate a report of children in your practice who have never been screened for lead. Pediatric practices that used this report in September are: **Narragansett Indian Health Center, BYCHC Central Falls and Pawtucket, Stuart Demirs, MD, Northwest Health Center, and Broadway Medical Treatment Center.**

If you would like to run this report and need a training review, contact your KIDSNET representative or call the Help Desk at 222-4220. Thank you for your help ensuring all children are appropriately screened for lead!

KIDSNET New Users

This month we welcome the practices of Drs. Amato & Ross, Dr. Michael Rosenberg, and Moses Brown School.

How Can KIDSNET Contact You?

We are sending you a brief questionnaire to find the best way to contact you with important and urgent news. Please fill out the questionnaire and fax it to us at 222-1442 by October 28, 2005. We appreciate your cooperation!

Save The Date!

The Immunization Program Annual Medical Home Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, November 8th at 7 a.m. at the Radisson Airport Hotel.

Call the KIDSNET Help Desk at 222-4220 with any questions or suggestions

Immunization Updates

Effective July 4, 2005, immunization against pneumonia is required for preschool entry. (The school immunization requirements in full are at www.health.ri.gov/family/immunization/requirements.php)

As a reminder, the pneumococcal vaccine for children (Pevnar) is a four dose series. The recommended schedule for Pevnar is at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, and 12-15 months of age. Currently, there is no shortage of Pevnar, and providers should plan to give eligible children all age-appropriate doses.

Due to an interruption in the supply of Pevnar in 2004, some children may not have received all four doses. For recommendations about Pevnar for children with a lapse in vaccine administration, contact Patricia Raymond, RN, at 222-5921 or Patricia.Raymond@health.ri.gov.

Changes to the Vaccine Distribution Program

The Rhode Island Immunization Program will be implementing the following changes in vaccine distribution and daily operations **effective November 1, 2005**. These changes are in response to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) new protocol for direct vaccine distribution.

- Practices will be required to stock a 60-day supply of vaccine.
- Practices will be allowed to order vaccine **no more than once a month**. (These orders should be to replenish vaccine used the previous month. Special orders for outbreaks will be handled on an as needed basis.)
- Practices will be required to fax a Vaccine Order Form at least four (4) business days prior to anticipated pick-up of vaccine order. Orders will be verified, approved/denied/adjusted, and a response will be faxed back within 48-hours of receipt.
- Orders may be faxed to 222-3805 or sent via email to vaccine@health.ri.gov.
- In order to pick up vaccine (at the Department of Health or pharmacy depot), the practice representative must have the following: a driver's license, a copy of the approved Vaccine Order Form and an appropriately sized cooler (with ice packs in order to maintain the cold chain). There will be no exceptions.
- The Department of Health vaccine room hours for pick-up will be as follows:
 - Walk-in service, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am-12pm and 1-3 pm.
 - Call ahead pickups or special orders, Monday – Friday 9am – 12pm and 1-3 pm (arrangements to be made at least 48 hours in advance).

Should you have any questions, please contact Mark V. Francesconi, Vaccine Manager, at 222-5988 or email MarkF@doh.state.ri.us.

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